

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for inserting a plurality of spinal fusion implants across a disc space between two adjacent vertebral bodies of a spine, said plurality of implants comprising opposite threaded arcuate portions adapted for placement toward and at least in part within the adjacent vertebral bodies and having a distance therebetween defining an implant height greater than the normal height of the disc space to be fused, at least a first of said plurality of implants having a mid-longitudinal axis and at least a medial side along said mid-longitudinal axis configured for placement in close proximity to a second of said plurality of implants, said method comprising the steps of:
  - forming two partially overlapping bores across the disc space by removing arc shaped portions from each of the vertebral bodies adjacent the disc space;
  - inserting said first implant into one of said overlapping bores with said medial side being oriented facing the interior of said disc space;
  - inserting with at least an element of rotation said second implant having a medial side and an opposite lateral side into a second of said overlapping bores, said lateral side of said second implant being adjacent and in close proximity to said medial side of said first implant.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said forming step includes forming bores having a diameter generally corresponding to the root diameter proximate the leading end of the implants.
3. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of pre-tapping the bores prior to the steps of inserting the implants.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the inserting steps include the step of positioning the implants at an angle toward each other within the overlapping bores such that the combined width of the implants at their leading ends will be less than the combined width of the implants at their trailing ends.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the inserting step includes rotating that implant such that when threaded fully the implant will come to rest so that the trailing end will be correctly rotationally aligned so that the profile of the trailing end will correspond to the contour of the anterior vertebral body.

6. A method for inserting a plurality of spinal fusion implants across a disc space between two adjacent vertebral bodies of a spine, at least one of the plurality of implants having the form of a threaded partial cylinder with a mid-longitudinal axis with a portion of the external surface being concave and another of the implants having the form of a threaded cylinder with a mid-longitudinal axis wherein the largest diameter of the partial cylinder and the diameter of the complete cylinder are each larger than the disc space between the two adjacent vertebral bodies, said method comprising the steps of:
  - forming two partially overlapping cylindrical holes across the disc space between the two adjacent vertebral bodies;
  - threading the partially cylindrical spinal fusion implant having a concave portion into one of the overlapping cylindrical holes, the concave portion being oriented such that the concave portion will substantially lie on an arc defined by the radius of the second cylindrical hole adjacent; and
  - threading the second implant into the second of said overlapping holes with the second implant in close proximity to the concave portion of the first implant.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein said forming step includes forming bores having a diameter generally corresponding to the root diameter proximate the leading end of the implants.
8. The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of pre-tapping the bores prior to the steps of inserting the implants.
9. The method of claim 6, wherein the inserting steps include the step of positioning the implants at an angle toward each other within the overlapping bores such that the combined width of the implants at their leading ends will be less than the combined width of the implants at their trailing ends.
10. The method of claim 6, wherein the inserting step includes rotating that implant such that when threaded fully the implant will come to rest so that the trailing end will be correctly rotationally aligned so that the profile of the trailing end will correspond to the contour of the anterior vertebral body.